I CLAIM:

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1   1.   A method of collectively generating for acquisition user-

2   created designs of products via a communications network,

3   said method comprising the steps of:

4   establishing graphic design software on a remote host

5   system connected to said communications network, said

6   graphic design software having a database module containing

7   product data for at least one product, and a graphic tool

8   module for visually affecting graphic images, said graphic

9   design software configured to run multiple, concurrent, and

10   independent program sessions on said remote host system;

11   providing public access to said graphic design software

12   by remote interface means, wherein a plurality of users may

13   each run a program session of said graphic design software

14   on said remote host system from client systems connected to

15   said communications network;

16   running a program session of said graphic design

17   software on said remote host system in response to each of

18   said plurality of users, said step of running a program

19   session including the steps of, under control of each of

20   said plurality of users, selecting from said database module

21   at least one target product to be designed, creating a final

22   design of said at least one target product using said

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23 graphic tool module, and submitting said final design to

24 said remote host system; and

25 storably receiving said final design on data storage

26 means of said remote host system.

1 2. The method as in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2 upon storably receiving a plurality of final designs,

3 selecting at least one winner using selection criteria; and

4 providing said at least one winner a corresponding

5 award.

3. The method as in Claim 1,

wherein the step of creating a final design of said at

least one target product comprises the step of providing an

option to save an unfinished design.

1 4. A method of collectively generating for acquisition user-

2 created designs of products via a communications network,

3 said method comprising the steps of:

4 establishing graphic design software on a remote host

5 system connected to said communications network, said

6 graphic design software having a database module containing

7 product data for at least one product, said product data

8 including a plurality of parts images associated with said

9 at least one product, and a graphic tool module for visually

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10 affecting graphic images, said graphic design software

11 configured to run multiple, concurrent, and independent

12 program sessions on said remote host system;

13   providing public access to said graphic design software

14 by remote interface means, wherein a plurality of users may

15 each run a program session of said graphic design software

16 on said remote host system from client systems connected to

17 said communications network,

18   running a program session of said graphic design

19 software on said remote host system in response to each of

20 said plurality of users, said step of running a program

21 session including the steps of, under control of each of

22 said plurality of users, selecting from said database module

23 at least one target product to be designed, selecting from

24 said database module at least one target parts image

25 associated with said at least one target product, creating a

26 final design of said at least one target product using said

27 graphic tool module including visually affecting said at

28 least one target parts image, and submitting said final

29 design to said remote host system; and

30   storably receiving said final design on data storage

31 means of said remote host system.

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1   5.   The method as in Claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

2   upon storably receiving a plurality of final designs,

3   selecting at least one winner using selection criteria; and

4   providing said at least one winner a corresponding

5   award.

6.   The method as in Claim 4,

     wherein the step of creating a final design of said at

least one target product comprises the step of providing an

option to save an unfinished design.

1   7.   A system for collectively generating for acquisition user-

2   created designs of products via a communications network,

3   said system comprising:

4   in a remote host system connected to the communications

5   network,

6   computer processor means for processing data;

7   data storage means for storing data;

8   graphic design software having a database module

9   containing product data for at least one product, and a

10   graphic tool module for visually affecting graphic

11   images, said graphic design software configured to run

12   multiple, concurrent, and independent program sessions

13   on said remote host system; and

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14   remote interface means for providing public access
15   to said graphic design software,
16   wherein a plurality of users may each run a program
17   session of said graphic design software on said remote host
18   system from client systems connected to said communications
19   network in response to each of said plurality of users, and
20   wherein each of said plurality of users may select from said
21   database module at least one target product to be designed,
22   create a final design of said at least one target product
23   using said graphic tool module, and submit said final design
24   to said remote host system where it may be storably received
25   on said data storage means.

1   8.   A system for collectively generating for acquisition user-
2   created designs of products via a communications network,
3   said system comprising:
4   in a remote host system connected to the communications
5   network,
6   computer processor means for processing data;
7   data storage means for storing data;
8   graphic design software having a database module
9   containing product data for at least one product, said
10   product data including a plurality of parts images
11   associated with said at least one product, and a
12   graphic tool module for affecting graphic images, said

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13 graphic design software configured to run multiple,

14 concurrent, and independent program sessions on said

15 remote host system; and

16 remote interface means for providing public access

17 to said graphic design software,

18 wherein a plurality of users may each run a program

19 session of said graphic design software on said remote host

20 system from client systems connected to said communications

21 network in response to each of said plurality of users, and

22 wherein each of said plurality of users may select from said

23 database module a target product to be designed, select from

24 said database module at least one parts images associated

25 with said at least one target product, create a final design

26 using said graphic tool module including visually affecting

27 said at least one target parts image, and submit said final

28 design to said remote host system where it may be storably

29 received on said data storage means.